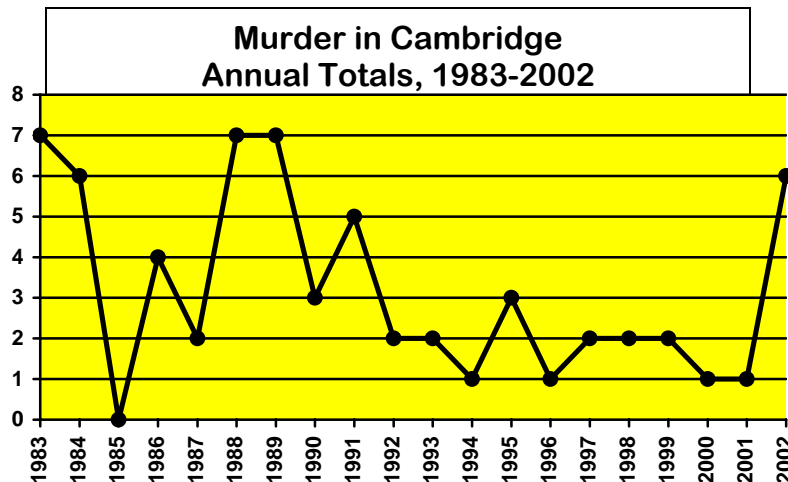


# MURDER

*Murder and Non-negligent Manslaughter, as defined in the Uniform Crime Reporting Program, is the willful (non-negligent) killing of one human being by another. The classification of this offense, as for all other Crime Index Offenses, is based solely on police investigation, as opposed to the determination of a court, medical examiner, coroner, jury, or other judicial body. Not included in the count for this offense classification are deaths caused by negligence, suicide, or accident; justifiable homicides; and attempts to murder or assaults with the intent to murder, which are scored as aggravated assaults.*

**5 reported in the first nine months of 2002 • 2 reported in the first nine months of 2003**



THE first murder of the year in Cambridge occurred in the early morning hours of Saturday, April 12th, 2003. Alexander Pring-Wilson, a 25-year-old Harvard University graduate student, was arrested for the stabbing death of Michael Colono, an 18-year-old Cambridgeport resident. The incident involved the escalation of a verbal exchange into a street fight in front of 208 Western Avenue. On Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, Pring-Wilson was released on \$400,000 cash bail with restrictions. This case is awaiting trial.

AN afternoon shooting in early June marked the second homicide of 2003 for the City of Cambridge. Officers responded to the parking lot of Kentucky Fried Chicken located on Massachusetts Avenue, just past Porter Square to find the victim, Robert Scott, lying face down from bullet wounds to the back. Multiple witnesses stated that Scott and his girlfriend were waiting for the bus when the suspect came up to them and began firing at Scott, which eventually lead to his death. Thanks to willing witnesses, Markendy Jean of Malden was identified as the prime suspect responsible for this homicide. Warrants were issued for Jean and after it was discovered that he had fled to Northern Florida, surveillance was set up. Due to the combined efforts of the Middlesex District Attorney's Office, Cambridge Police Department and Massachusetts State Police, along with the cooperation of the Metro-Dade and North Miami Police Department, Jean turned himself over to the authorities in the early morning hours of July 3, 2002. Jean is currently in custody and awaiting trial.

# RAPE

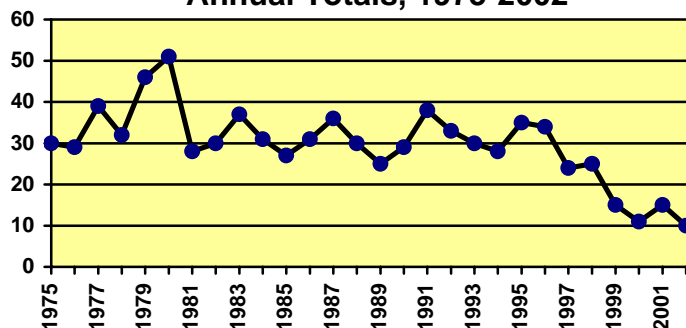
*Forcible Rape, as defined by the Uniform Crime Reporting Program is the carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will. Attempts to commit rape by force or threat of force, and assaults with the intent to commit rape, are also included; however, statutory rape (without force) and other sex offenses are excluded.*

**10 reported in the first nine months of 2002 • 7 reported in the first nine months of 2003**

There were three fewer rapes reported in the first nine months of 2003 than reported in the same time period in 2002. Of the seven rapes reported so far this year, four were completed rapes and three were attempts. All four of the completed rapes were "contact" rapes, meaning that the suspect contacted the victim and tried to gain his/her confidence before assaulting him/her. Of the attempted rapes, two were classified as "contact" rapes. Contact rapists usually pick up their victims in bars, lure them into their cars or houses, or

otherwise try to coerce the victim into a situation in which they can begin their assault. The third attempt was classified as a "stranger" rape and involved a young female at an area park who was approached by an unknown male who asked her if she would like some alcohol. The female fled, but later was approached by the suspect again, who pushed her into a Port-a-Potty and tried to take off her clothes. The female was able to get out of the Port-a-Potty and fled the scene. A Cambridge man was later arrested for this attempted rape.

**Rape in Cambridge  
Annual Totals, 1975-2002**



# ROBBERY

*Robbery is the taking or attempted taking of anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear. This crime includes muggings, purse snatchings, and bank hold-ups.*

**133 reported in the first nine months of 2002 • 163 reported in the first nine months of 2003**

A twenty-three percent increase was reported in the first nine months of 2003 when compared to the first nine months of 2002. The commercial robbery total remains steady with only one

Type	3rd Q. 2002	3rd Q. 2003	% Change
Commercial Robbery	27	28	+4%
Street Robbery	106	135	+27%
<b>Total</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>+23%</b>

additional incident reported this year when compared to the same period last year. The twenty-three percent increase this year is thus fueled by an increase in street robbery incidents.

## COMMERCIAL ROBBERY

Although the overall commercial robbery total has remained steady when compared to last year, bank robberies in particular have increased dramatically. Fourteen of the twenty-eight robberies reported in the first nine months of 2003 occurred at area banks. This is a significant increase from the six bank robberies reported during the same time period last year. Many of the high totals reported in the business districts can be attributed to this increase in bank robberies. For example, five out of the six robberies reported in the 1500-1900 Mass. Ave. business district, and three out of the four robberies reported in both the Kendall Square/M.I.T. business district and the Central Square business district were at area banks. Of the fourteen bank robberies reported in the first nine months of the year, nine took place in the first three months. Incidents have typically consisted of 'note-passers' who pass a note to the bank teller demanding cash in lieu of physical harm. Cambridge Police arrested an Everett man in late January after he passed a note at an Inman Square bank and the Federal Bureau of Investigations has arrested at least two individuals who have been linked to at least five Cambridge bank robberies.

Geographic Breakdown of Commercial Robberies		
Business Districts	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2002	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2003
Galleria/East Cambridge	6	3
Kendall Square/MIT	1	4
Inman Square	1	2
Central Square	4	4
Cambridgeport/Riverside	0	0
Bay Square/Upper B.way	1	1
Harvard Square	5	2
1500-1900 Mass. Ave.	3	6
Porter Square	4	3
Alewife/West Cambridge	2	3

The remaining fourteen commercial robberies in the City occurred at various locations such as gas stations, drug stores, and other miscellaneous retail locations. When analyzing the business districts without including bank robberies, East Cambridge, Alewife, and Porter Square reported the most activity.

Three commercial robberies were reported in the East Cambridge/Galleria business district in the first nine months of 2003. The first transpired in late May when a confident culprit walked into Hedin Furniture, demanding money out of the safe. After finding the safe empty, the suspect took a small amount of cash from the register and fled. The second and third robberies in this business district occurred at the same gas station on Monsignor O'Brien Highway. In March an unknown suspect walked into the gas station and asked to use the bathroom. The suspect then waited for everyone else to leave the store before approaching the counter, displaying a knife, and demanding money from the clerk. The second gas station robbery occurred in June when a masked robber approached the clerk with a handgun and demanded money from the register.

The Alewife/West Cambridge business district also reported three robberies in the first nine months of 2003. The first two robberies in this business district were at the same drug store on Huron Avenue and seem to have been committed by the same suspect. The suspect entered the store near closing time and demanded Percocet and OxyContin. The third Alewife robbery occurred at a gas station on Concord Avenue when an unknown masked robber came in with a handgun and demanded money.

The first robbery reported in Porter Square occurred at a gas station on Mass. Ave. and followed the same pattern as the other gas station robberies discussed above. The second robbery resulted in the arrest of a Maynard man after he went into CVS to use the phone and then turned on the employees with a knife. This man attempted to physically hold an employee in order to get what he wanted, but before the demands were made, the employee broke free without incident.

## STREET ROBBERY

Street robbery increased by twenty-seven percent when compared to the same time period in 2002. Seven of the thirteen neighborhoods experienced an increase in street robbery. Of those seven, the Cambridgeport and North Cambridge neighborhoods experienced the most dramatic increases. Activity reported in those two neighborhoods is reviewed in detail below.

Robberies in the Cambridgeport neighborhood were clustered in two locations: within the 500 block of Massachusetts Avenue and in an area of Magazine Street, between Cottage & Erie Streets. Incidents were concentrated on weekends between 11:00 p.m. and 3:00 a.m. Most of the incidents were crude in nature, meaning that the perpetrator appeared inexperienced in committing the crime. No robberies were reported in the month of August. In total, twenty-one arrests were made in Cambridgeport over the first nine months of the year, which stemmed from nine incidents. All but four of the arrestees were residents of Cambridge. For more information regarding street robbery arrests made in this neighborhood or any other neighborhood, see the notable arrests reviewed at the end of this section.

Geographic Breakdown of Street Robberies in Cambridge			
Neighborhood	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2001	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2002	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2003
East Cambridge	12	9	10
MIT	2	0	2
Inman/Harrington	7	10	6
Area 4	18	24	22
Cambridgeport	19	9	29
Mid-Cambridge	13	11	10
Riverside	8	9	12
Agassiz	4	5	2
Peabody	7	6	8
West Cambridge	8	11	7
North Cambridge	4	9	23
Cambridge Highlands	0	1	2
Strawberry Hill	1	2	2

Of the twenty-three robberies in North Cambridge, only five involved the use of a weapon. Incidents were heavily concentrated along Massachusetts and Rindge Avenues on Mondays through Wednesdays between 9:00 p.m. and 1:00 a.m. Like the Cambridgeport robberies, most of the North Cambridge robberies were also crude in nature. Incidents often involved victims being approached by several unknown teenaged suspects at one time, demanding the victim's money.

Of the one hundred and thirty-five street robberies reported during the first nine months of 2003, here is a quick recap of the events:

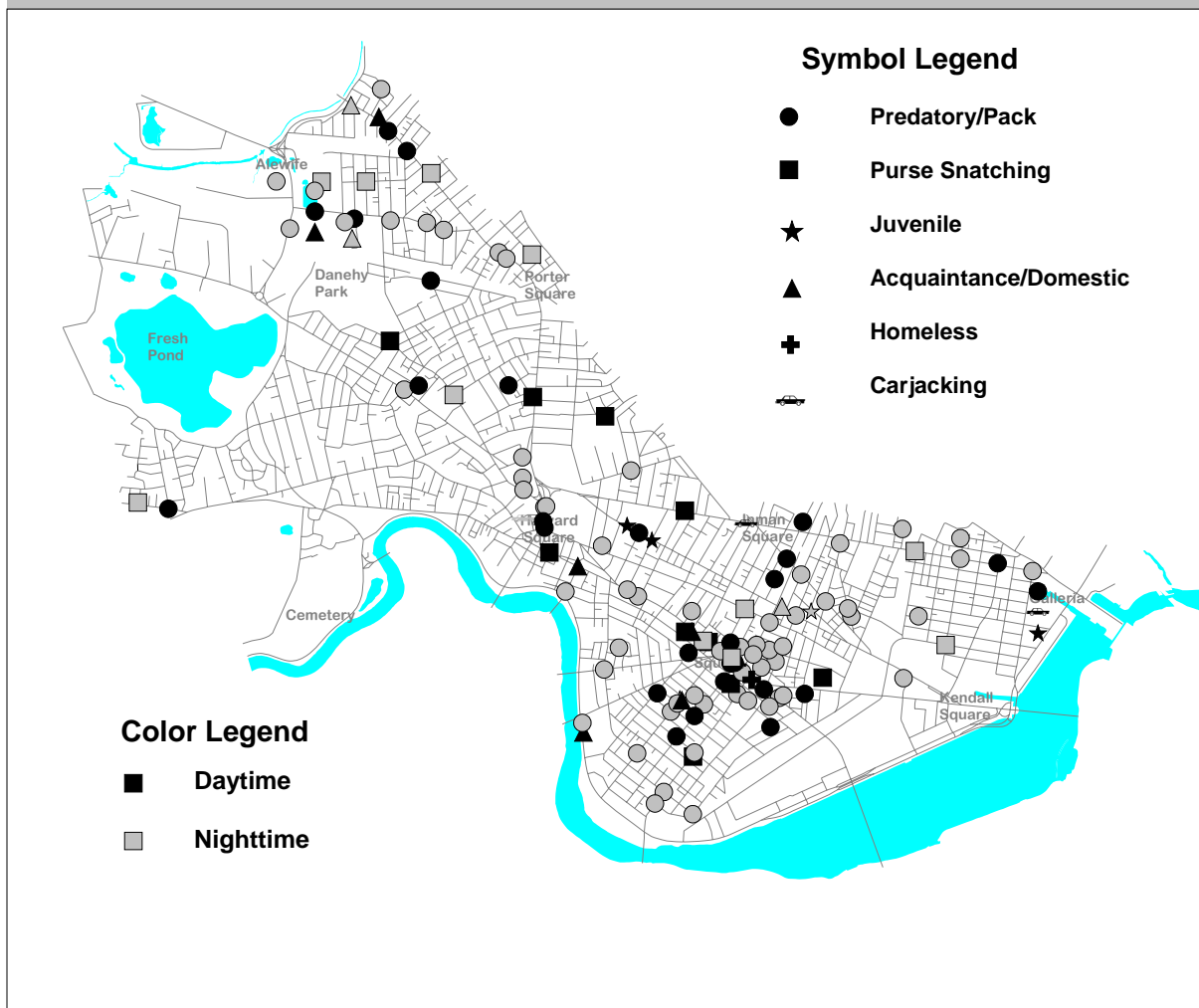
- Six robberies were classified as **acquaintance** situations where the victim knew his/her assailant, such as a friend, co-worker, or drinking buddy. Situations like these commonly involve people who know when someone else has money and use strong-arm tactics to rob the victim of their cash, etc.

- Four incidents of **bully boy** robberies were reported, which typically consist of school-aged youths who rob each other. These robberies often occur on the way home from school, or at playgrounds, malls, or parks and often involve two to four juvenile males using strong-arm tactics to steal such things as clothing or money.
- Four **carjackings** were reported in the first nine months of 2003. In a carjacking scenario, a lone predator will approach a victim entering or exiting their car, or when stopped at a traffic light. What the suspect demands from that point on can range from the car keys to money, or even as far as demanding that the victim drive the assailant to a specific location.
- Three **domestic** robberies were reported, all of which took place as part of an escalating domestic dispute.
- One **dial-a-victim** robbery took place after a pizza deliveryman was assaulted as he climbed the stairs to a fake delivery address.
- One **drug deal** robbery took place after the victim went with two unknown suspects with the promise that they would all get high together. The suspects then turned on the victim, assaulting him and stealing two dollars.
- One **homeless** robbery took place after a wheelchair-bound person gave his friend money to hold for him and two other homeless persons came up, assaulted the man, and took the money.
- Four of the eighteen **pack robberies** resulted in arrests. Typically these situations play out after a group of young males use strong-arm tactics to relieve the victim of his/her money. Seven of these robberies involved the use or threat of a weapon, while the remaining eleven involved physical force.
- Seventy-six **predatory** robberies were reported during the first nine months of the year, in which one or two offenders 'mugged' their victim with a weapon, with the threat of a weapon, or, by the threat of some other type of force. Of the total seventy-six robberies, twenty-seven were classified as *professional*, indicating that the robber(s) were collected, efficient, and effective. The remaining forty-nine robberies were deemed *crude*, meaning that the robber(s) were edgy, unprepared, and unpredictable, and in turn, not always successful.
- The most classic robbery is a **purse snatching**, which accounted for twenty-one of the City's robberies during the first nine months of the year. In this scenario, the robber typically approaches his female victim from behind and grabs her purse. In a little over half of the incidents, suspects were successful and fled with the victims' purses. In the remaining incidents, the robbers were unprofessional in nature and caught off guard when the female victims put up a struggle.

#### Notable Arrests:

- The week before Valentine's Day, two street robberies occurred in the Peabody neighborhood involving two victims walking alone in the early evening. Both victims were stabbed. The suspect descriptions were identical in the two robberies. In response, undercover patrols set up surveillance and saturated the area in an effort to catch the suspect. These efforts turned out to be successful. On February 16<sup>th</sup>, a Somerville man and a youth from Malden were arrested for a housebreak. The two offenders were carrying weapons similar to the ones described in the street robberies. The youth was subsequently identified as the robber.
- One hour prior to the housebreak arrest described above, the patrol division was making another major apprehension. Four suspects, all Area 4 residents, were arrested for robbing a pair of Central Square shoppers entering their vehicle on Pearl Street. The Investigations Unit is working to link this quartet of offenders to as many as eight other robberies committed in the area.
- The arrest of three Boston individuals by undercover officers on the night of June 7<sup>th</sup> eliminated a late-night street robbery pattern that was beginning to emerge in Cambridgeport at the time.
- Two Cambridge men and one Dorchester man were arrested in late September after they attempted to rob a man coming out of a Cambridgeport liquor store. A struggle ensued and the victim walked away. However, the men then followed the victim for several blocks, cornered him, and stabbed him repeatedly in the back.

## Street Robberies Reported in Cambridge Between January 1, 2003 and September 30, 2003



# ASSAULT

Aggravated Assault describes an unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault is usually accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm. Attempts are included since it is not necessary that injury result when a gun, knife, or other weapon is used which could and probably would result in serious personal injury if the crime were successfully completed.

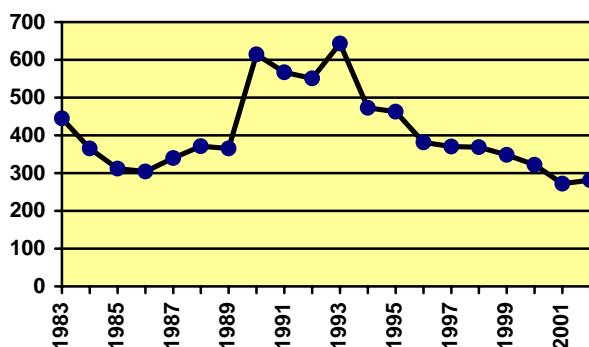
**231 reported in the first nine months of 2002 • 201 reported in the first nine months of 2003**

The number of aggravated assaults reported in the first nine months of 2003, as compared to the same time period in 2002, dropped by thirty incidents. Of the incidents reported, most were the result of domestic altercations. Within those assaults categorized as domestic, the most common relationship between victim and offender was that of romantic partners. The second most commonly reported type of aggravated assault involved victims who were surprised when strangers attacked them without provocation. Batterers most often used their own hands and feet to harm their victims. Weapons such as knives, glass bottles, and handguns were used in far

less incidents. Of those incidents reported where a weapon was produced and used, the following is a review of the most serious:

- In late May, a man in Harvard Square was approached by an unknown Pembroke female. The two exchanged words and then parted. Later in the day the female returned with her boyfriend, a Hingham man. The two men got into an argument, which escalated when the Hingham man pulled out a knife and began to stab the victim in the shoulder. Before the victim could get away he was stabbed five more times while the female suspect punched him repeatedly. The two suspects were later apprehended and arrested in the Harvard Square T station.

### Aggravated Assault in Cambridge Annual Totals, 1983-2002



- One of the most notable assaults of the first nine months of 2003 took place late at night on June 4<sup>th</sup>, outside of Riverside Pizza on River Street. The victim was called outside of the bar where he was met by an ambush of bullets, sending him to the hospital. The shooter was subsequently identified as a 32-year old Cambridge resident and was placed under arrest.
- Just a few days after the assault reviewed immediately above, another shooting occurred in the Riverside neighborhood. This incident occurred at the intersection of Magee Street and Putnam Avenue. The victim had been shot four times, but was still able to drive himself to the hospital. No suspects have been identified. This case is still under active investigation.
- In response to a street fight in the Area 4 neighborhood between two women in mid-June, an unknown man retrieved an axe from the trunk of his vehicle. The victim, seeing the man with the axe, told him not to get involved with the street fight and was subsequently hit in the head with the axe, causing a large laceration.
- In late July, a Cambridge teen was playing basketball at an East Cambridge park when six unknown males approached him and began to assault him. One of the suspects was carrying a knife, which he used to stab the victim three times. This case is also still under active investigation.

#### Relationships

Another way to look at aggravated assaults is to classify the relationship between the offender and the victim

Relationship	Total	%
Stranger or Unknown	83	41%
Romantic Partner	27	13.5%
Misc. Acquaintance	25	12.5%
Parent/Child	15	7.5%
Spouse	8	4%
Co-Worker/Employee	8	4%
Schoolmate	8	4%
Ex-Romantic Partner	8	4%
Third Lover	4	2%
Roommate	4	2%
Sibling	4	2%
Neighbor	3	1.5%
Step-Parent	2	1%
Landlord/Tenant	1	.5%
Other Family	1	.5%

Of the two hundred and one aggravated assaults reported in the first nine months of 2003, ninety-four incidents ended in arrests. In total, one hundred and twelve arrests were made during those ninety-four incidents. By far, the most arrests were made in assaults that were domestic in nature. Most of the individuals arrested were male, between the ages of eighteen and thirty, and resided in Cambridge.

#### Weapons

The following is a list of the various weapons and the number of times they were used.

Hands/Feet – 81	Knife – 34
Bottle/Glass – 14	Household Items – 14
Handgun – 13	Bar/Bat/Club – 8
Automobile – 7	BB Gun – 2
Other – 28	

# LARCENY

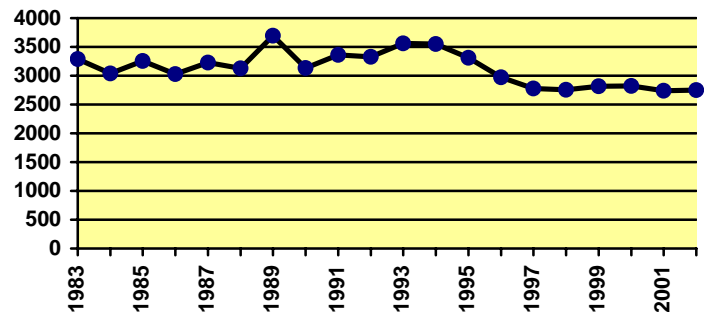
Larceny is the unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession of another. It includes crimes such as shoplifting, pocket-picking, thefts from motor vehicles, thefts of auto parts and accessories, and bicycle thefts, in which no use of force, violence, fraud, or trespass occurs. In the Uniform Crime Reporting Program, this crime category does not include embezzlement, "con" games, forgery, and worthless checks. Motor vehicle theft is also excluded from this category, as it is a separate crime index offense.

## 2143 reported in the first nine months of 2002 • 1851 reported in the first nine months of 2003

The overall larceny total continued to decrease throughout the summer months, resulting in a fourteen percent decrease in the first nine months of 2003 as compared to the same time period in 2002. All of the subcategories of larceny decreased except for larcenies committed in residences and larcenies of services, both of which are subcategories that do not typically lend themselves to pattern identification. Larcenies of bicycles and incidents of shoplifting in particular have dramatically decreased in the first nine months of 2003.

Type	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2002	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2003
Larceny from a Building	403	403
Larceny from Motor Vehicle	561	487
Larceny of a Bicycle	227	169
Larceny from a Person	296	239
Shoplifting	349	265
Larceny from a Residence	158	167
Larceny of a License Plate	76	63
Larceny of Services	23	26
Miscellaneous Larceny	50	32
<b>Total Larcenies</b>	<b>2143</b>	<b>1851</b>

Larceny in Cambridge  
Annual Totals, 1983-2002



The following is a breakdown of the major subcategories of larceny, including any patterns or trends identified:

**Larceny from Motor Vehicle:** Larcenies from motor vehicles typically rank among the top three subcategories of the crime of larceny. During the months of July and August of 2002, the Mid-Cambridge neighborhood experienced a dramatic increase in activity. In late August of 2002 several arrests were executed in Mid-Cambridge, which ended this pattern. Fortunately, the pattern did not re-emerge this summer, allowing for a thirteen percent decrease overall in this subcategory and a forty-nine percent decrease in the Mid-Cambridge neighborhood. The most noticeable increases this year occurred in the East Cambridge, M.I.T., Cambridgeport, and Cambridge Highlands neighborhoods, which are discussed in further detail below.

**East Cambridge:** The East Cambridge larceny from motor vehicle total in the first nine months of 2003 was fueled by numerous spree of incidents reported in the months of April, May, and September.

- On April 23<sup>rd</sup>, five vehicles were broken into in the area of Gore Street and Second Street. The breaks occurred between 8:00 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Entry was gained by smashing a window in each incident and guest parking passes and bags of various items were targeted. On the night of April 25<sup>th</sup>, four vehicles in the Bent Street and Second Street area were targeted. The breaks occurred during the same time as the April 23<sup>rd</sup> breaks and followed a similar pattern, i.e. windows broken and bags of items stolen.

Neighborhoods	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q 2002	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q 2003
East Cambridge	69	103
M.I.T.	10	18
Inman/Harrington	28	23
Area 4	62	34
Cambridgeport	54	66
Mid-Cambridge	109	59
Riverside	33	22
Agassiz	40	21
Peabody	45	33
West Cambridge	39	39
North Cambridge	54	45
Cambridge Highlands	11	15
Strawberry Hill	7	9



- A third spree was reported between May 8<sup>th</sup> and May 10<sup>th</sup>. Six incidents were reported in the area of Rogers Street and First Street. Methods of entry and items targeted varied, but most of the breaks took place between 11:00 p.m. on Saturday and 1:00 a.m. on Sunday.
- On May 19<sup>th</sup>, five larcenies from motor vehicles were reported. Two occurred at the parking garage at 1 Kendall Square and two occurred at Bent and Third Streets. The incidents occurred between 12:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. and entry was gained in all of the incidents by smashing a window. Car stereos were taken in three of the incidents.
- In response to the increase in incidents in this neighborhood, the Cambridge Police Department decided to set up a decoy vehicle in mid-May in the hopes of catching the thieves responsible for the car breaks. The decoy vehicle was set up at Bent Street and Second Street on a Friday night. Shortly thereafter, two Dorchester men were witnessed smashing the decoy vehicle's window and taking a laptop from inside the car. They were arrested. No additional sprees were reported over the summer.
- On September 4<sup>th</sup>, a spree of four larcenies from motor vehicles was committed in the Bent Street area. The breaks occurred on a Thursday afternoon around 3:00 in the afternoon. In each incident, entry was gained by smashing a window and car stereos were stolen, resulting in damage to the car dashboards. Five days later, on a Tuesday afternoon around 2:30, three more breaks were reported in the same area, which shared the same characteristics as the breaks committed on September 4<sup>th</sup>.

M.I.T.: Eight of the eighteen larcenies from motor vehicles reported in the M.I.T. neighborhood occurred in the last three months. Seven of those eight have occurred on Vassar Street. Incidents are concentrated between the 200 and 300 block of Vassar Street and typically have involved individuals forcing open door locks of parked cars and stealing car stereos. In late July, an M.I.T. student from Chicago was arrested after he was seen walking up and down Vassar Street, trying to break into parked cars. After this arrest only one additional incident was reported in this neighborhood.

Cambridgeport: No major patterns were identified in the Cambridgeport neighborhood. However, three possible sprees were reported during the first nine months of 2003. Between April 26<sup>th</sup> and April 28<sup>th</sup>, five cars parked in the area of Putnam Avenue and Allston Street were targeted. Entry was gained in various ways. Car stereos were a common target. In two of the incidents it looked as though the suspect initially intended to steal the car, evidenced by damage to the ignition, but later settled with stealing the car radio. Six motor vehicles were reported broken into in late June. The incidents occurred overnight, entry was gained by smashing a window, and various items were targeted. In late September, between September 21<sup>st</sup> and September 24<sup>th</sup>, five parked cars were targeted in the Cambridgeport neighborhood. Three of the parked motor vehicles were parked on Memorial Drive and two of the cars were parked at the same location on Sidney Street. Three of the incidents involved the theft of items from the exterior of the motor vehicles, including a radiator, tires, and a spoiler. The last two incidents involved the cutting of convertible tops. Various items were taken, however, both of the cars were rummaged through.

Cambridge Highlands: All but three of the incidents reported in the Cambridge Highlands neighborhood occurred in the parking lots of 186 and 168 Alewife Brook Parkway. Incidents were concentrated on the weekends between 8:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. Entry was gained in most of the incidents by breaking a window, however in a few incidents door locks were forced open. Laptops and cell phones were targeted. Only one additional incident has been reported in the Highlands neighborhood since July 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Larceny from Building:** Larcenies from buildings in Cambridge remained steady in the first nine months of 2003. As more businesses moved into Cambridge, this crime became concentrated in commercial buildings housing many different business offices. Suspects would enter the offices, posing as delivery or lost persons, and would steal items such as laptops, wallets, and cell phones. This year, the number of larcenies reported from traditional office buildings has declined. Many addresses reported multiple incidents and most of those addresses fell into five categories of non-residential buildings: health clubs, churches, hospitals, schools, and hotels. In addition, the Galleria Mall also reported multiple incidents.

- Forty-nine incidents of larceny were reported at health clubs throughout the City. The most incidents were reported at Bally's on Massachusetts Avenue (14 incidents), the Wellbridge Center on Bennett Street (12 incidents), the Cambridge Racquet & Fitness on First Street (7 incidents), and the YMCA on Massachusetts Avenue (7 incidents). Incidents were concentrated late in the week during patrons' lunch breaks (11:00 a.m.



– 1:00 p.m.) and after work (4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.). In all but five of the incidents, thieves stole wallets and purses, later using the victims' credit cards at various Cambridge retail establishments. The incidents reported were evenly dispersed between entry into locked lockers and entry into unlocked lockers, which means that the best way to prevent this crime is to leave cash and credit cards at home when going to the gym.

- Twenty-three of the larcenies from buildings reported occurred at local schools. Eight out of the twenty-three occurred at the Cambridge Rindge and Latin school. Most incidents occurred during the week when school was in session or during athletic programs after school. Wallets, purses, and backpacks were targeted in unattended offices, locked lockers, and other unattended areas.
- Eighteen thefts were reported from Cambridge churches. The majority of incidents occurred on the weekend between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. and involved guests leaving their personal belongings unattended while attending church.
- Fifteen incidents of theft were reported at area hotels. Incidents were concentrated on the weekends at various times. Items were stolen from rooms, conference rooms, and hotel hallways. Two of the incidents involved individuals breaking into and stealing from Coke vending machines at the Hotel at M.I.T. in June.
- Fourteen incidents of larceny were reported at hospitals in the first nine months of 2003. The incidents were concentrated during the middle of the week between 5:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. Ten incidents involved the theft of property left unattended by patients and personnel and four involved the theft of hospital property.

**Larceny from Person:** Typically, larcenies from persons dominate the larceny subcategories. However, in the first nine months of 2003, the larceny from person total fell into the fourth highest position. Theft from people shopping and dining in Harvard Square and the Cambridgeside Galleria drive this total. Two arrests were made in the beginning of the year, which are reviewed below, that have helped keep the larceny from person total lower than normal this year. Larcenies from person are generally easy to prevent. Remember to always keep your belongings within your control. Do not leave purses on the floor, on the back of your chair, or otherwise unattended. Do not leave wallets or cell phones in the pockets of hanging coats.

- In mid-January, a woman dining at Paparazzi's reported that her wallet had been stolen out of her purse. The woman had left her purse on the floor next to her chair while she ate. She noticed a man and a woman sitting at the table behind her. When she went to leave, she noticed that her purse had been moved and that her wallet was missing. When she called the credit card company to cancel her credit cards, she was informed that one of her cards had already been used at the Timberland store in the Galleria Mall. A search of the Mall led to the arrest of a Tewksbury woman and a Roxbury man.
- In early February, a woman was eating at the Border Café in Harvard Square when an unknown couple came up to her and commented that her meal looked good. Later, the woman found that her purse had been stolen. The couple was later seen at the Harvard Square Cinema going through the victim's purse and trying to sell a camera on the street. They were both subsequently arrested.

# BURGLARY

*Burglary describes the unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or theft. The use of force to gain entry is not required to classify an offense as burglary. Burglary attempts are included in the total.*

**569 reported in the first nine months of 2002 • 448 reported in the first nine months of 2003**

Overall, burglary has significantly decreased from last year's nine-month total. Residential burglary in particular has fueled this overall decrease; evidenced by the 24 percent decline in incidents reported in the first nine months. Commercial burglary is also slightly down from last year's nine-month total.

Burglary Type	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2002	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2003	% Change
Commercial Burglary	128	113	-12%
Residential Burglary	441	335	-24%
Total	569	448	-21%

## COMMERCIAL BURGLARY

The commercial break total for the first nine months of 2003 slightly decreased from last year's total. The Inman Square and Harvard Square business districts had the highest numbers of incidents with nineteen breaks each. The Bay Square business district experienced the most notable increase in incidents from its normal third quarter totals. Activity in these business districts is reviewed below. The Central Square and East Cambridge business districts experienced the most notable decrease in incidents as compared to last year's totals. The decrease in incidents in Central Square can be attributed to a pattern of breaks into restaurants in 2002 that failed to emerge in 2003 and the East Cambridge decrease can be attributed to fewer breaks into area businesses made in pursuit of computer equipment.

Geographic Breakdown of Commercial Burglaries in Cambridge			
Business District	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2001	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2002	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2003
Galleria/East Cambridge	14	22	9
Kendall Square/MIT	7	6	9
Inman Square	16	14	19
Central Square	16	28	13
Cambridgeport/Riverside	10	3	4
Bay Square/Upper B.way	7	4	14
Harvard Square	6	23	19
1500-1900 Mass. Ave.	5	1	3
Porter Square	12	8	11
Alewife/West Cambridge	5	19	12

Suspects in these commercial breaks gained entry into targeted establishments typically by prying or somehow forcing the front doors. Entry was also gained in fewer incidents through the rear door of the establishment or through a ground-level window. In seven of the reported incidents, the suspect(s) ransacked the interior before fleeing. Eighteen of the incidents were only attempts that were aborted prior to entry being gained. Various retail establishments were the most common type of premise targeted by burglars, followed by restaurants/bars and business offices.

Although there were no major patterns reported in the first nine months of 2003, the following is a review of identified trends and clusters:

### Inman Square:

- Four commercial breaks were reported between the 1000 to 1100 block of Cambridge Street on Thursday, January 16<sup>th</sup> in the early morning hours. The first break reported occurred around 1:00 a.m. at the Hyde Factory Outlet. An unknown suspect set off the alarm upon entering the establishment and stole cash from the business' safe. The other three breaks occurred at the Mid-West Grill and Pino's Tattoo shop, which share a common basement. In each break, an unknown suspect broke into the businesses' cash registers and stole cash.

*Nine of the nineteen commercial breaks reported in the Inman Square business district occurred on Cambridge Street*



- In early July, an unknown suspect gained entry to the Islamic Society of Boston and tried to get into a locked drawer containing cash. The suspect(s) fled before stealing anything and set off the alarm on their way out. The very next day entry was gained again and a bookcase with a locked cash drawer was removed. The suspect(s) attempted to open the drawer with a pitchfork, but were scared off when police arrived. No further breaks were reported at this location.
- In late September, a Broadway restaurant was broken into twice in pursuit of cash kept in a safe. In the first break, the suspect(s) successfully took cash that was left in an unlocked safe. In the second break, a week later, the safe was left unlocked and empty, thus thwarting the efforts of the burglars.

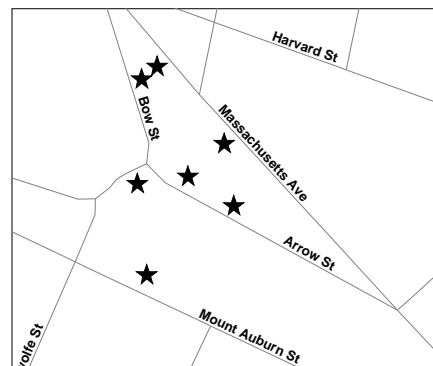
### Harvard Square:

- Although one of the highest commercial break totals was reported in the Harvard Square business district, no major patterns have emerged. In fact, the total in this business district is lower than the total recorded during the same time frame last year.

- A concentration of breaks was reported during the first half of the year in a tight area between Massachusetts Avenue and Bow and Arrow Streets. The breaks were concentrated between Saturdays and Mondays at various times. Laptops and cash were targeted. Entry was gained in most of these breaks by prying front or rear doors. A salon on Arrow Street was broken into three times.

#### Bay Square:

- There has been a high concentration of commercial breaks in the lower half of Massachusetts Avenue. This concentration was fueled by a spree of seven commercial breaks into businesses located at 955 Massachusetts Avenue on April 30<sup>th</sup>. The breaks occurred between 4:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. The same suspect was described in each of the breaks. The suspect gained entry into the businesses by prying the locks on front and side doors and once inside took cash and digital cameras. Apparently, the suspect took his time moving about the building and was seen sitting in a conference room, drinking a soda.
- During the first week of August, the Isaac Harding House on Harvard Street was broken into three times. In all of the breaks the suspect(s) appeared to have stacked crates under a window and used a shovel to gain access. During the first break, once inside, the suspect(s) pried open a drawer and took cash. The second and third breaks seemed to be made in pursuit of the drawer that had been previous emptied during the first break.



*Seven of the nineteen commercial breaks reported in the Harvard Square business district occurred at businesses near Bow and Arrow Streets.*

## RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY

Residential burglary decreased significantly in the first nine months of 2003 as compared to the same time period in 2002. With the exception of the M.I.T. and Cambridge Highlands neighborhoods, which increased by one incident each, a decrease was experienced by all the neighborhoods. The most significant housebreak pattern of the year, which is reviewed below, was identified late in the summer in the Mid-Cambridge neighborhood. However, despite this pattern, the overall housebreak total remains low and the Mid-Cambridge total in particular is still below normal. Neighborhoods such as Agassiz and Peabody, which experienced a dramatic increase in incidents in the first nine months of 2002, are now back to normal levels. The Inman/Harrington neighborhood in particular has experienced a dramatic decrease in incidents this year, specifically a sixty-eight

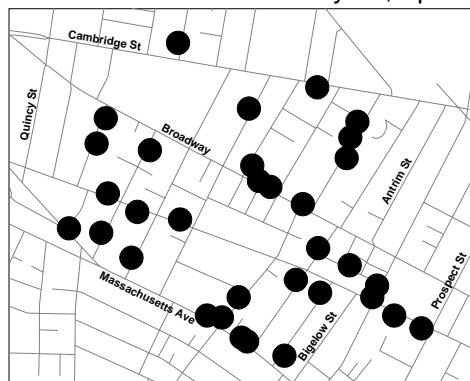
Neighborhood	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2001	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2002	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2003
East Cambridge	31	31	<b>25</b>
MIT	0	0	<b>1</b>
Inman/Harrington	29	31	<b>10</b>
Area 4	54	41	<b>30</b>
Cambridgeport	39	58	<b>38</b>
Mid-Cambridge	81	76	<b>69</b>
Riverside	45	32	<b>28</b>
Agassiz	13	38	<b>14</b>
Peabody	20	47	<b>38</b>
West Cambridge	35	28	<b>27</b>
North Cambridge	30	47	<b>46</b>
Cambridge Highlands	0	2	<b>3</b>
Strawberry Hill	4	10	<b>6</b>

percent decrease from last year.

The following is a review of sprees, patterns, or trends identified during the first nine months of 2003:

#### Mid-Cambridge – Between Cambridge Street & Massachusetts Avenue

Of the sixty-nine housebreaks reported in this neighborhood in the first nine months of the year, thirty-three were reported in the months of August and September. Geographically, thieves targeted apartments located in a tight area between Cambridge Street and Massachusetts Avenue, which is shown in the map to the left. Breaks were concentrated during the daytime between 11:00 a.m. to



*Concentration of breaks in Mid-Cambridge*

2:00 p.m. on all weekdays. In a majority of the incidents, entry was gained by prying the front door and lock. Targeted items included jewelry and laptop computers.

#### North Cambridge - North of Rindge Avenue

Although the housebreak total for the North Cambridge neighborhood has remained steady overall, a significant number of incidents have been reported since July 1<sup>st</sup>. The breaks seem to be concentrated Tuesdays through Thursdays between 2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. Entry is being gained either through a ground floor window or by cutting panels out of front and rear doors. Targeted items include jewelry, laptops, and cash. Multiple breaks have been reported on Cambridgepark Drive, Reed Street, and Washburn Avenue.

#### East Cambridge – Museum Way

The East Cambridge total remained steady this quarter due to a high concentration of incidents reported at apartment buildings on Museum Way. Twelve breaks in total have been reported since the beginning of the year. Most of the breaks have occurred since April, and have been concentrated on the weekends during the late afternoon and early evening hours. In eight of the incidents, residents left their front doors unlocked, creating an irresistible opportunity for would-be burglars. Laptops and high-end luxury items such as paintings and expensive jewelry were targeted.

#### Peabody – Linnaean Street & Washington Avenue

On April 10<sup>th</sup>, between noon and 3:00 p.m., an unknown suspect broke into seven apartments located in buildings on Linnaean Street and Washington Avenue. The suspect gained entry by forcing open either the front or rear doors of the apartments and once inside took cash and cameras.

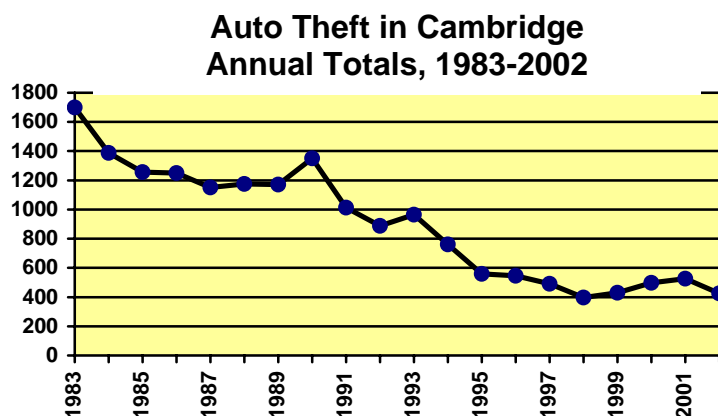
## AUTO THEFT

*Defined as the theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle, this offense category includes the theft of automobiles, trucks, buses, motorcycles, motor scooters, and snowmobiles. This definition excludes the taking of a motor vehicle for temporary use by persons having lawful access.*

**347 reported in the first nine months of 2002 • 324 reported in the first nine months of 2003**

Auto thefts marginally decreased by the end of the third quarter of 2003. They reached a peak during the summer months, with thefts being concentrated on Saturdays and Wednesdays during those months. Theft and recoveries in Cambridge were concentrated in the lower half of the City. Cambridgeport reported the highest number of thefts, which combined with Area 4, makes the two neighborhoods the top target areas for auto thefts throughout the City.

There have been no discernable auto theft patterns through the third quarter in 2003 other than the trend in Honda thefts. As it can be seen in the table below, Hondas are the most targeted cars when it comes to thefts, which are the second top stolen car throughout the nation. Vehicle thefts took place during the nighttime almost as frequently as the daytime. Locations of repeat incidents included: the 200 block of Massachusetts Avenue, the 1100 block of Cambridge Street, the 700 block of Memorial Drive, and at the intersections of Norfolk and Harvard Streets in Area 4.



### TOP FIVE CAR MAKE/MODELS

MAKE	NUMBER
Honda Accord	44
Honda Civic	41
Acura Integra	23
Toyota Camry	20
Toyota Corolla	9

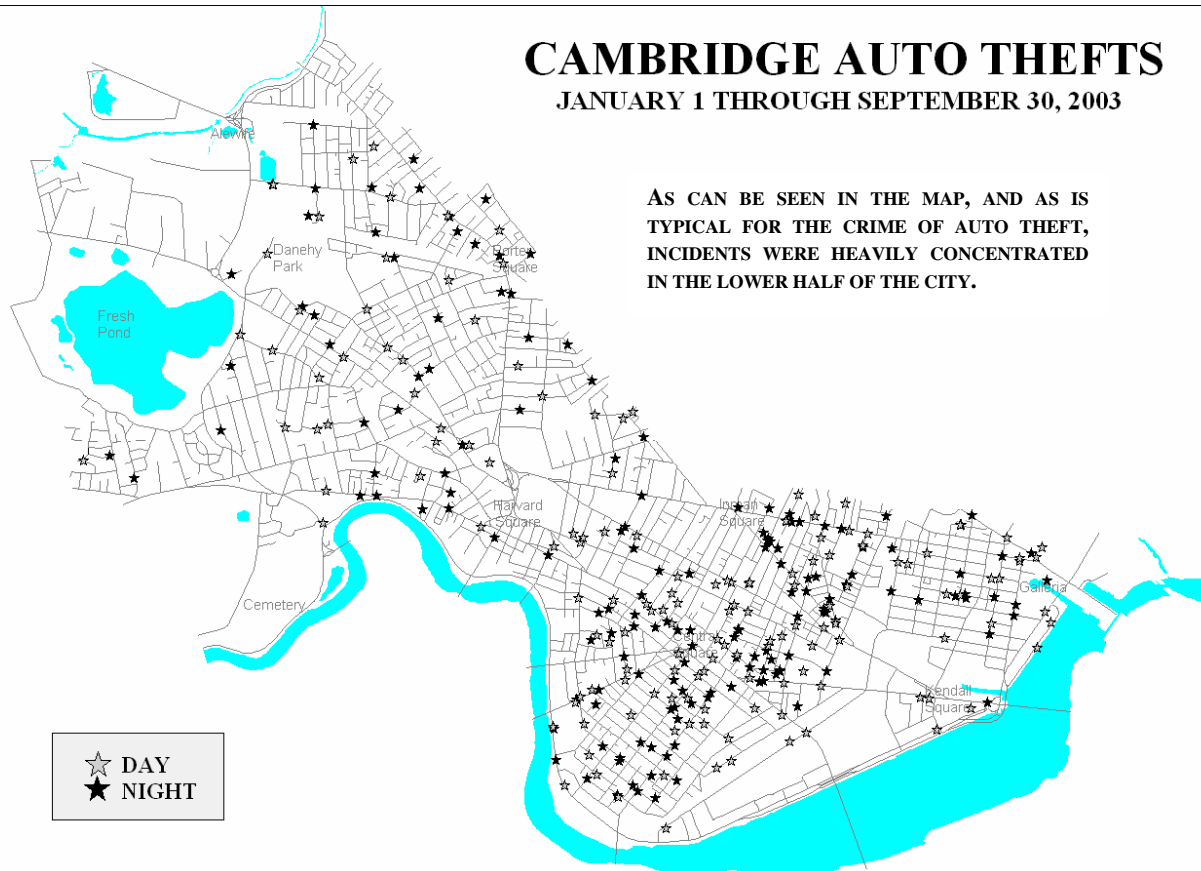
The month of April incurred the highest number of incidents due to a rash of thefts early in the month. Between April 8<sup>th</sup> and April 9<sup>th</sup>, six Honda Accords were stolen from the West Cambridge and Peabody neighborhoods. The thefts occurred between 5:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. on a Tuesday night. Honda Accords manufactured in either 1994 or 1996 were targeted. Five of the cars stolen were recovered and of the five recoveries, four were made in Cambridge. Most of the cars only had ignition damage.

NEIGHBORHOOD	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2001	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2002	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2003	PERCENTAGE CHANGE 02-03	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL
East Cambridge	45	45	34	-24%	11%
M.I.T. Area	13	4	8	+100%	3%
Inman/Harrington	26	41	41	NC	13%
Area 4	64	50	46	-8%	14%
Cambridgeport	58	50	58	+16%	18%
Mid-Cambridge	34	19	27	+42%	8%
Riverside	32	29	24	-17%	7%
Agassiz	11	15	11	-27%	3%
Peabody	30	26	20	-23%	6%
West Cambridge	25	16	23	+44%	7%
North Cambridge	36	36	24	-33%	7%
Cambridge Highlands	21	7	4	-43%	1%
Strawberry Hill	12	9	4	-56%	1%

## CAMBRIDGE AUTO THEFTS

JANUARY 1 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2003

AS CAN BE SEEN IN THE MAP, AND AS IS TYPICAL FOR THE CRIME OF AUTO THEFT, INCIDENTS WERE HEAVILY CONCENTRATED IN THE LOWER HALF OF THE CITY.



### RECOVERY LOCATIONS

Boston	79	Brockton	1
Cambridge	70	Andover	1
Somerville	27	Chicopee	1
Arlington	4	Dedham	1
Medford	3	Lynn	1
Malden	2	Haverhill	1
Revere	2	Brookline	1
Waltham	2	Chelsea	1
Haverhill	1	Newton	1
Methuen	1	Out-of-State	6

**Auto Theft Recoveries:** 206 out of the 324 motor vehicles reported stolen during the first three quarters of 2003 have been recovered. As the table to the left indicates, the largest number of motor vehicle recoveries were made throughout Boston, in which over half of the recovered vehicles were Hondas. The majority of recoveries made in Boston were carried out during the summer months. Approximately twenty percent of the vehicles stolen in Cambridge were recovered in Cambridge. As the map below shows, a majority of cars recovered in Cambridge were recovered in the lower half of the city, particularly in the Cambridgeport neighborhood.

### CAMBRIDGE AUTO THEFT RECOVERY LOCATIONS

JANUARY 1 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2003

